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INFORMATION REPORT

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INFO.

1. KIMATA Shigeo (木保茂夫), better known by the pen name of KIMATA Shusui, is a former nationalist turned leftist. For the past two years he has been in the service of the Japanese Communist Party (JCP). On 7 April 1950 KIMATA joined the staff of the Shinsekai Shinbun (新世界新聞), 3 Nishino-machi, Unagitani, Linami-ku, Osaka. This newspaper, which has a circulation of 60,000, is owned by a Korean, RYU Shi-gen (柳紙鉉), and is edited by KOBAYASHI Ryuji (小林隆治).
2. Born 3 April 1912 in Kyoto, KIMATA was living at 49 Higashi-machi, Shojiin, Kamikyo-ku, Kyoto, when he was employed by the Shinsekai Shinbun. Leaving school to embark upon a journalistic career, KIMATA worked for many newspapers in the Kyoto area, advancing to the position of section chief on the Editorial Board of the Kyoto Shinbun in April 1941. He resigned in September 1942 to take a job with the Press Section of the Imperial Rule Assistance Young Men's Corps Headquarters (Yokusan Sonen-Dan Hombu). January 1945 saw KIMATA in Taipei, Taiwan, as a member of the Editorial Board of the Taiwan Shimpō.
3. While in Taiwan KIMATA became friendly with a certain TAKAKURA* (高倉), under whose influence he began turning toward Communism. The turn was a very gradual one. After his repatriation to Japan in early 1946, KIMATA published two books which lamented Japan's post-war situation. These books, plus one he had written in 1943 that exalted Imperial rule, almost resulted in his being purged as an ultra-nationalist. In 1946 KIMATA returned to journalism as an officer of the second Kyoto Nichi-Nichi Shinbun. Here he was accorded rapid promotion, receiving the courtesy rank of board member in January 1949. The same TAKAKURA with whom KIMATA had been acquainted in Taiwan was a colleague on the Kyoto Nichi-Nichi during these years.
4. Associated with a number of welfare organizations such as the Kyoto Prefectural Welfare Committee, the Child Welfare Committee, and the Kyoto Committee for Assimilating Untouchables (Dowa Taisaku Linkai), KIMATA was interested in helping the underprivileged and was disappointed with

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the Occupation. TAKAKURA and another friend, KITAHARA Michihiko (北原道彦), took advantage of KIMATA's sympathies to twist him more and more toward Communism. Although KIMATA still does not carry a JCP card, TAKAKURA and KITAHARA have been card-bearers for four and two years, respectively.

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* ~~SECRET~~ Comment. This may refer to TAKAKURA Ichiro, who is active in JCP affairs.

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